

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 570
By Shirley

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Charles E. Stoker on being named "Optimist of the Year".

WHEREAS, in a period in which our youth are at their highest risk ever from drugs and crime but also have their greatest potential for good, it is very comforting to know that since its auspicious founding in 1919, Optimist International has stood firmly as a strong moral bulwark, turning the youth of our country into good citizens. This exemplary group has more than 160,000 members in 54 districts and has as its notable motto: "Friend of Youth"; and

WHEREAS, after careful and thoughtful consideration, Charlie E. Stoker, an Optimist's Optimist, was recently chosen "Optimist of the Year", a very fitting accolade for a person who, for twenty-nine productive years, has worked with extraordinary diligence and dedication to promote the group's worthwhile goals; and

WHEREAS, Charlie is a founder and charter member of the model Fox Meadow Optimist Club, serving admirably and expertly as Charter Club President and in all official capacities, and he has remained an active and valued member for twenty-nine years; and

WHEREAS, he was the founder of the exemplary "Respect For Law Week", a highly regarded event which has since become an international event within the Optimist International organization; and

WHEREAS, he also instituted the popular "Officer of the Year" award, which specially recognizes the outstanding patrol officer of the year; and

WHEREAS, Charlie has personally been involved in the recruitment of more than 200 members to the Optimist organization; and

WHEREAS, he has also been personally involved in the founding and sponsorship of 11 Optimist Clubs; and

WHEREAS, an ideal role model, Charlie has actively helped the youth of Shelby County through his tireless efforts with the Optimists; and

WHEREAS, through his Optimist activities, he has also unselfishly recognized the accomplishments of other citizens who have made extraordinary contributions to the public good; and

WHEREAS, Charlie has been married to his lovely and charming wife, Mary Kay, for 51 years; and

WHEREAS, he has been a devout and active member of the Christian Heritage Church for 40 years; and

WHEREAS, in this our two hundredth year as the "Volunteer State", there is no better representative of our state than Charlie E. Stoker; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor, congratulate and heartily commend Charlie E. Stoker on being named "Optimist of the Year", and commend his service to the Optimist International, Shelby County and the state of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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